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Oct 7 2008 10:10

P. 03

KUMAR  
Appl. No. 10/525,231  
October 7, 2008

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**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

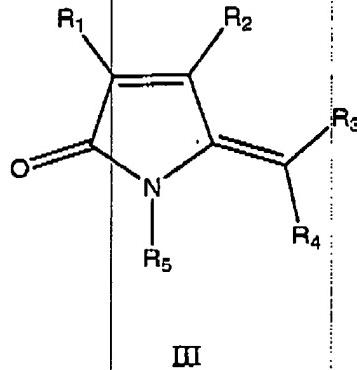
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-141 (cancelled)

142 (previously presented).

A method for preparing a compound of formula

III:



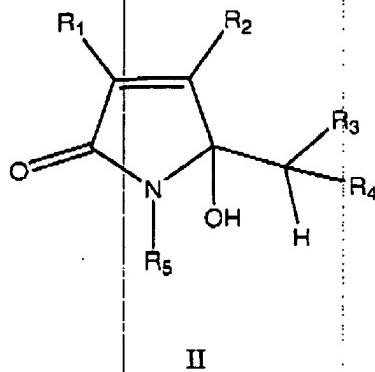
wherein R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are independently selected from H, halogen or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl;

R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> are independently selected from H, halogen, hydroxyl, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl; and

R<sub>5</sub> is selected from the group consisting of H, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl or substituted or unsubstituted aryalkyl; wherein the method comprises the steps of

KUMAR  
Appl. No. 10/525,231  
October 7, 2008

(a) providing a compound of formula II:



wherein

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are independently selected from H, halogen or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl;  
R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> are independently selected from H, halogen, hydroxy or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl; and

R<sub>5</sub> is selected from the group consisting of H, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl or substituted or unsubstituted arylalkyl; and

(b) dehydration of the compound of formula II to provide the compound of formula III.

143 (previously presented). A method according to claim 142, wherein at least one of R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> in formula III is halogen.

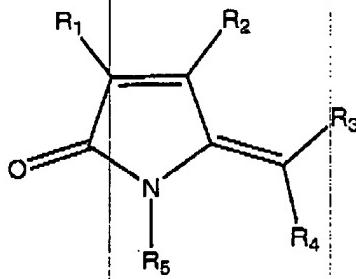
144 (previously presented). A method according to claim 142, wherein the dehydration is carried out in the presence of a dehydrating agent.

KUMAR  
Appl. No. 10/525,231  
October 7, 2008

145 (currently amended). A method according to claim 144, wherein the dehydrating agent is selected from the group consisting of phosphorus pentoxide, silica gel, molecular sieves, alumina, acidic resins and polymers, phosphorus oxychloride, acetic anhydride, N,N'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC), trifluoroacetic acid, sulfuric acid, trifluoroacetic anhydride, and trifluorosulfonic acid anhydride (triflic anhydride).

146 (previously presented).

A compound of formula III:



Wherein

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are independently selected from H, halogen or substituted or unsubstituted C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl;

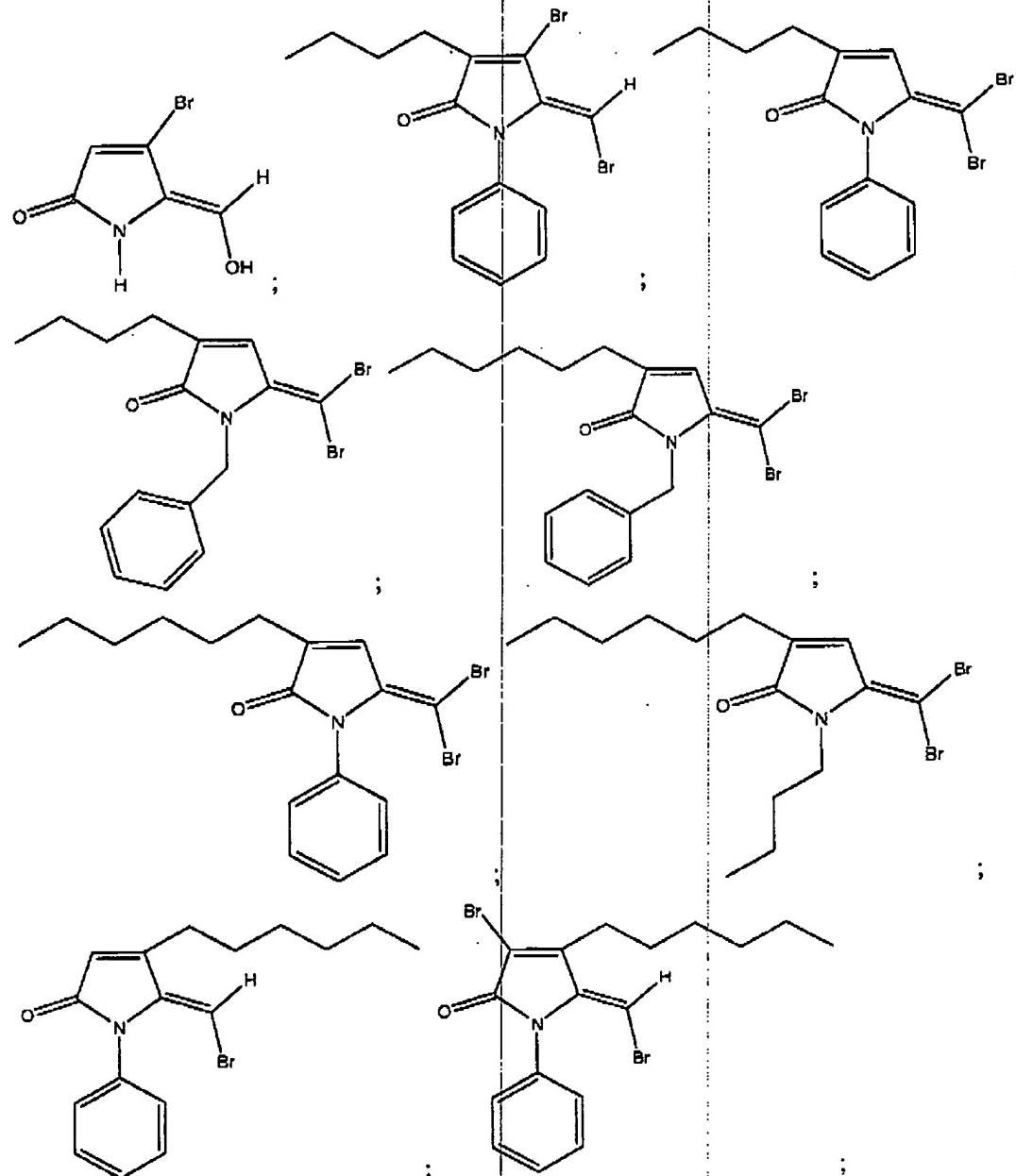
R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> are independently selected from H, halogen, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl; and

R<sub>5</sub> is selected from the group consisting of H, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl or substituted or unsubstituted arylalkyl.

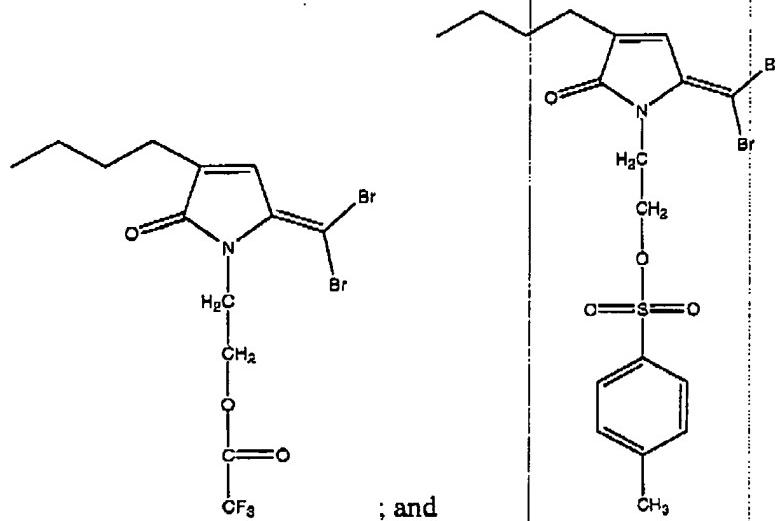
KUMAR  
Appl. No. 10/525,231  
October 7, 2008

147 (currently amended). A compound according to claim 144-146, wherein at least one of R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> is halogen.

148 (currently amended). A compound selected from the group consisting of:



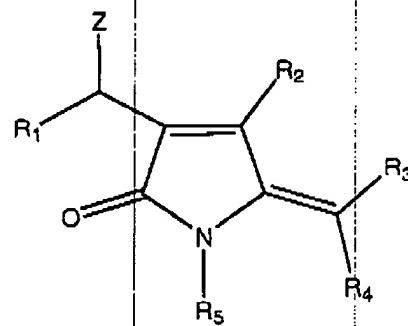
KUMAR  
Appl. No. 10/525,231  
October 7, 2008



149-157 (canceled).

158 (previously presented).

A compound of formula (VI):



VI

wherein R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are independently selected from H, halogen or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl;

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Oct 7 2008 10:12

P. 08

KUMAR  
Appl. No. 10/525,231  
October 7, 2008

R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> are independently selected from H, halogen, hydroxyl or substituted or unsubstituted alkyl;

R<sub>5</sub> is selected from the group consisting of H, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl or substituted or unsubstituted arylalkyl; and

Z is selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, OC(O)alkyl and OC(O)alkylC(O)OH.

159-235 (canceled).

236 (new). A method according to claim 142 wherein halogen is bromine.

237 (previously presented). A method according to claim 142 wherein aryl is phenyl.

238 (previously presented). A method according to claim 142 wherein arylalkyl is benzyl.

239 (previously presented). A method according to claim 142 wherein R<sub>5</sub> is alkyl substituted with -OC(O)CF<sub>3</sub> or -OSO<sub>2</sub>-*p*-toluene.

240 (currently amended). A method compound according to claim 146 wherein halogen is bromine.

**Best Available Copy**

NIXON & VANDERHYE PC3 Fax: 703-816-4100

Oct 7 2008 10:12

P. 09

KUMAR  
Appl. No. 10/525,231  
October 7, 2008

241 (currently amended). A method compound according to claim 146 wherein aryl is phenyl.

242 (currently amended). A method compound according to claim 146 wherein arylalkyl is benzyl.

243 (currently amended). A method compound according to claim 146 wherein R<sub>5</sub> is alkyl substituted with -OC(O)CF<sub>3</sub> or -OSO<sub>2</sub>-*p*-toluene.

244 (currently amended). A method compound according to claim 158 wherein halogen is bromine.

245 (currently amended). A method compound according to claim 158 wherein aryl is phenyl.

246 (currently amended). A method compound according to claim 158 wherein arylalkyl is benzyl.

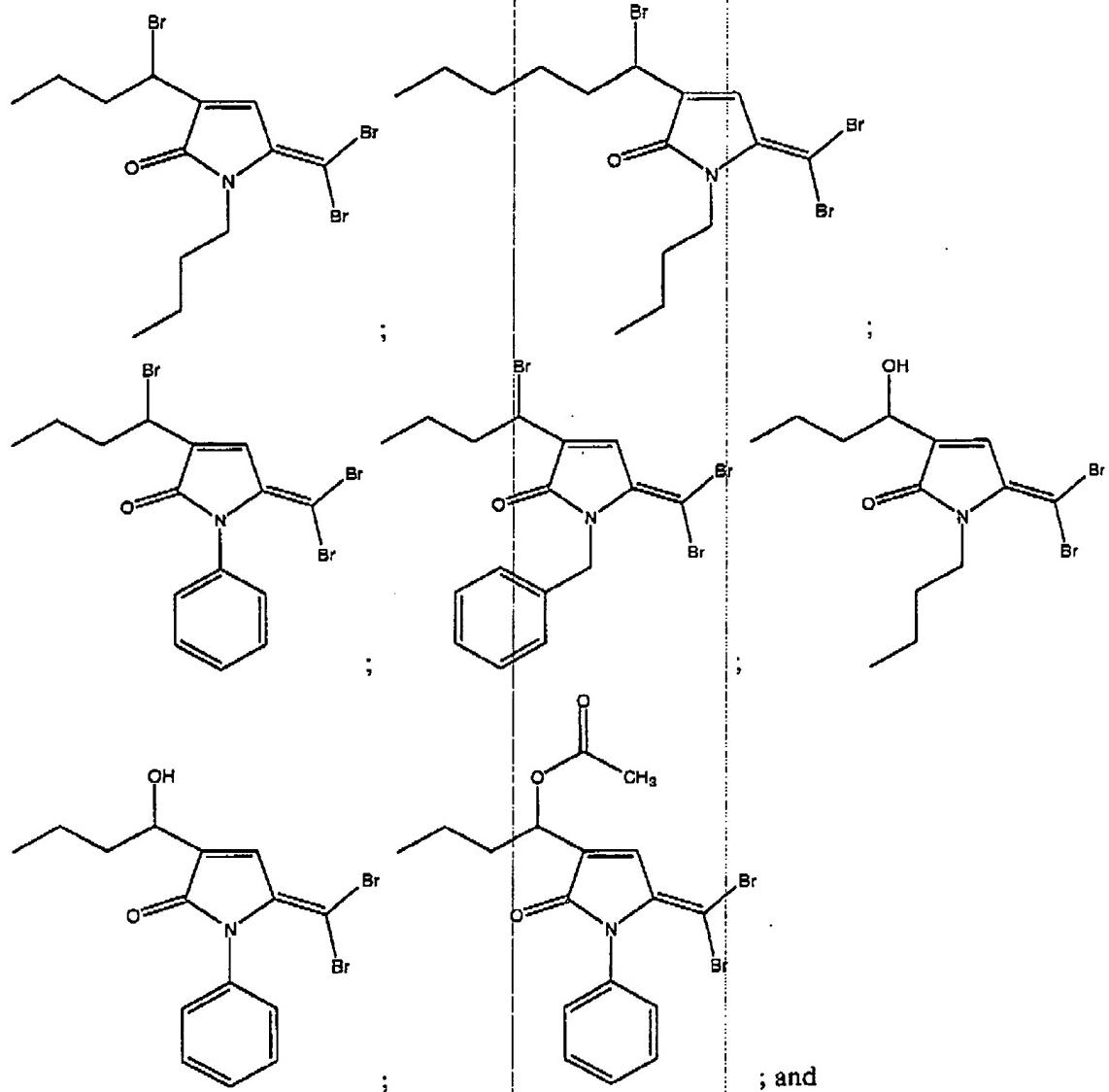
247 (currently amended). A method compound according to claim 158 wherein Z is -OC(O)CH<sub>3</sub>.

248 (currently amended). A method compound according to claim 158 wherein Z is -OC(O)CH<sub>2</sub>C(O)OH.

KUMAR  
Appl. No. 10/525,231  
October 7, 2008

249 (previously presented).  
consisting of:

A compound selected from the group



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Oct 7 2008 10:12

P.11

